

Quality First!

Arizona's Quality Improvement and Rating System

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What is Quality First?

- Who
- What
- Where
- When
- How

QUALITY
FIRST!



Early Care & Education
FIRST THINGS FIRST

Why Invest?

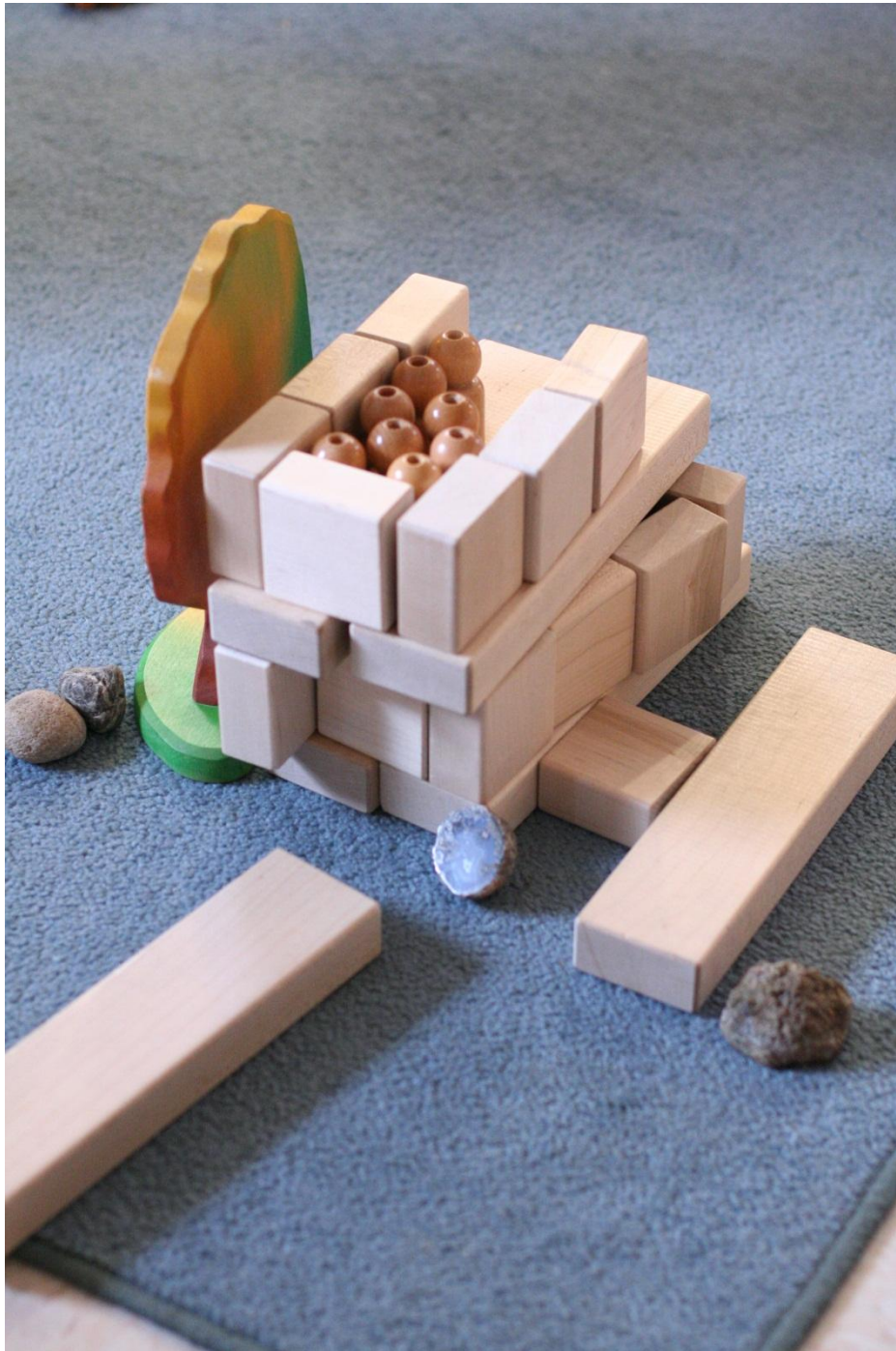
High Quality Early Care & Education

- Improves academics
- Improves chances of well-being
- Decreases need for expensive interventions
- Improves social-emotional development

Low Quality Early Care & Education

- Not less growth, no growth (Pianta, et al 2009)
- Increases behavior challenges
- Increases chances of risky behavior
- Increases risk of poor health
- Hinders social-emotional development

The History



Phase I:

Improvement to Quality (2009)

Phase II:

Quality Rating Pilot (2010)

Phase III:

Rollout of Star Rating (2011)

(play video)

Getting to Rating: Full Participation



Quality Rating

What is Quality?

1. Put on your parent hat
2. What will you look for?



Defining Quality

Components of Quality

- Environment
- Curriculum & Assessment
- Child & Adult Interactions
- Staff Qualifications
- Administrative Practices
- Family Engagement



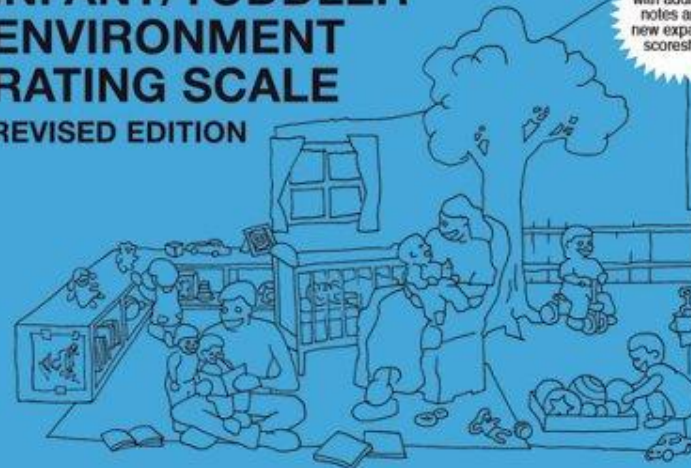
Measuring the Environment

EARLY CHILDHOOD ENVIRONMENT RATING SCALE REVISED EDITION



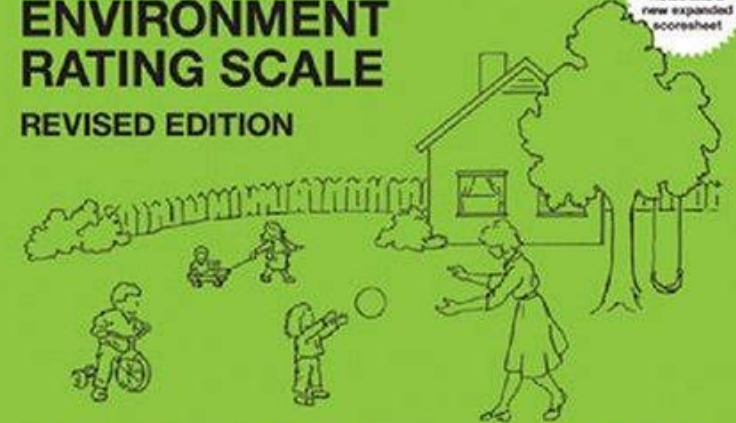
Thelma Harms Richard M. Clifford Debby Cryer

INFANT/TODDLER ENVIRONMENT RATING SCALE REVISED EDITION



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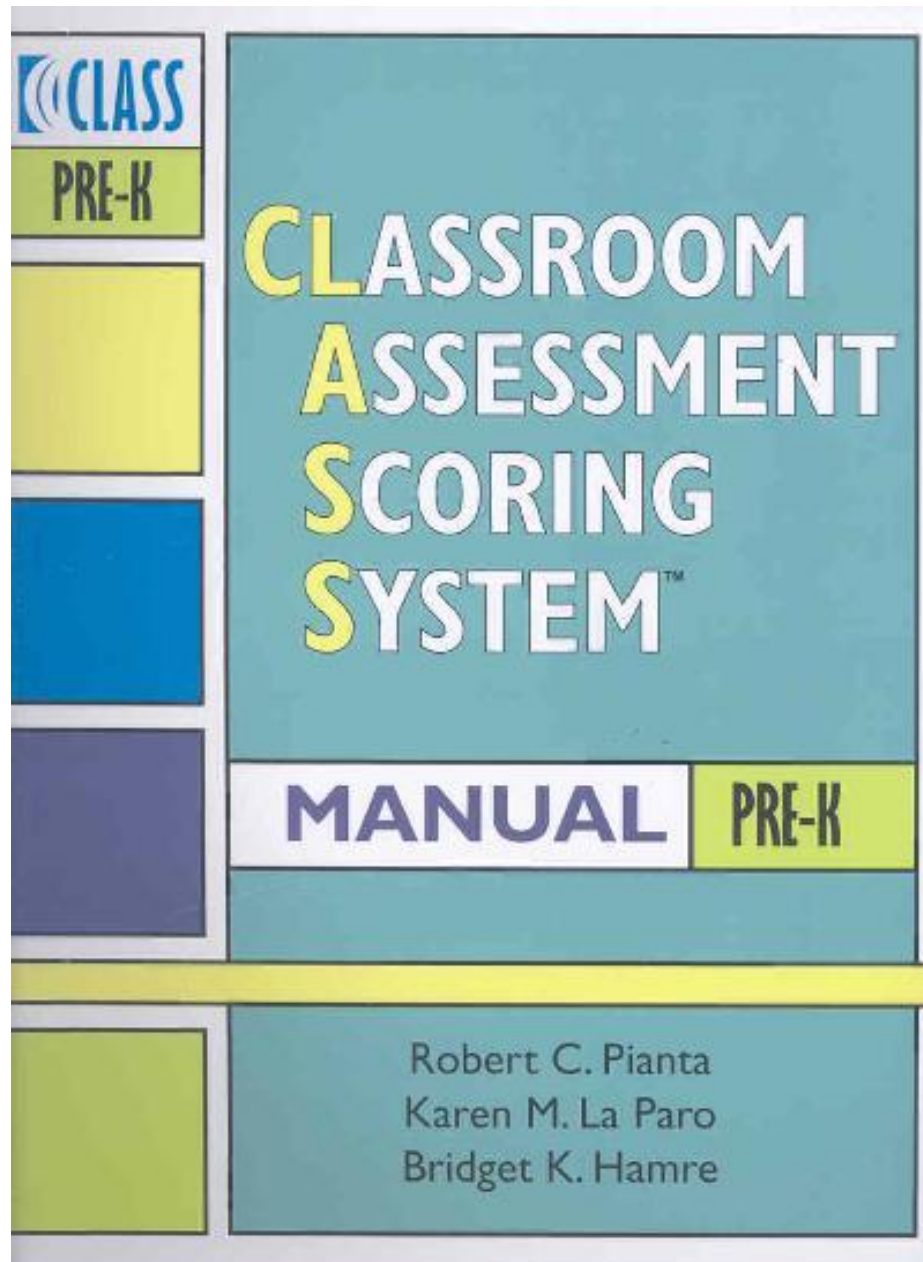
FAMILY CHILD CARE ENVIRONMENT RATING SCALE REVISED EDITION



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- 1-7 scale
- 1: harmful 3: custodial 5: quality

Measuring Interactions & Instruction



- 3 Domains
 - Emotional Support
 - Classroom Organization
 - Instructional Support
- Scale of 1-7
- Low, Medium, High
- High scores lead to outcomes for kids

Additional Measures



- Family Engagement
- Curriculum & Assessment
- Administrative Practices
- Staff Qualifications
(see handout)

QUALITY FIRST

OPTION A

Key to Abbreviations:

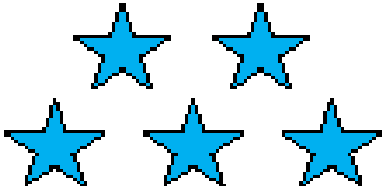




ERS – Environmental Rating Scales (ECERS, ITERS, FCCERS)

CLASS – Classroom Assessment Scoring System

ES – Emotional Support Domain

CO – Classroom Organization Domain

IS – Instructional Support Domain

				
				
		AVERAGE CLASS SCORES: <div> <div>ES 4.5</div> <div>CO 4.5</div> <div>IS 2.0</div> </div>	AVERAGE CLASS SCORES: <div> <div>ES 5.0</div> <div>CO 5.0</div> <div>IS 2.25</div> </div>	AVERAGE CLASS SCORES: <div> <div>ES 6.0</div> <div>CO 6.0</div> <div>IS 2.5</div> </div>
	ERS SCORE: No overall score below a 3.0	ERS SCORE: No overall score below a 4.0	ERS SCORE: No overall score below a 5.0	ERS SCORE: No overall score below a 5.0
Holds license/certificate with substantial compliance and has committed to participate in Quality First Rating	POINTS EARNED ON SCALE: 6-12	POINTS EARNED ON SCALE: 13-19	POINTS EARNED ON SCALE: 20-25	POINTS EARNED ON SCALE: 26-32

National Comparison: Participation

Arizona System	Information from Compendium
Participation in Quality Rating is voluntary	3 states require rating with licensing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N. Carolina • New Mexico • Oklahoma One state requires programs receiving subsidies to be rated <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maine
License Requirement AZ enrolls programs that are regulated by one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DHS • DES • Tribal • Military 	23 states require a center based program to be licensed to enroll in QIRS 19 states require home-based programs to be licensed to enroll in QIRS Only one other state enrolls Tribal programs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oklahoma

National Comparison: Levels

Arizona System	Information from Compendium
5 Levels to Rating	13 of 27 states reviewed also have 5 levels

National Comparison: Staff Qualifications, Ratios, Group Sizes

Arizona System	Information from Compendium
<p>Staff Qualifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arizona requires a percentage of staff, rather than all staff, to meet certain qualifications. • The highest level of teacher (only 50%) required and still receive a good quality (3 star) rating is a high school diploma and either 3 credits in ECE or 60 hours of training • The highest level of a director required to still receive a good quality (3 star) rating is a CDA 	<p>14 states recognize a BA requirement for a director.</p> <p>14 (not the same 14) states recognize a BA requirement for the teacher.</p> <p>Almost all states recognize the BA requirement or require the degree for a percentage of the staff, rather than all staff.</p> <p>**Staff qualifications are considered in all 26 states QIRS.</p>
<p>Ratios and group sizes are included as a component of quality</p>	<p>13 other states require either NAEYC or stricter ratios/group sizes to receive the highest rating their systems. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VA requires a 1:3 ratio, max size of 6 for infants and 1:7, max size of 14 for 3 year olds • TN has a 1:13 ratio for 4 year olds with a max group size of 20.

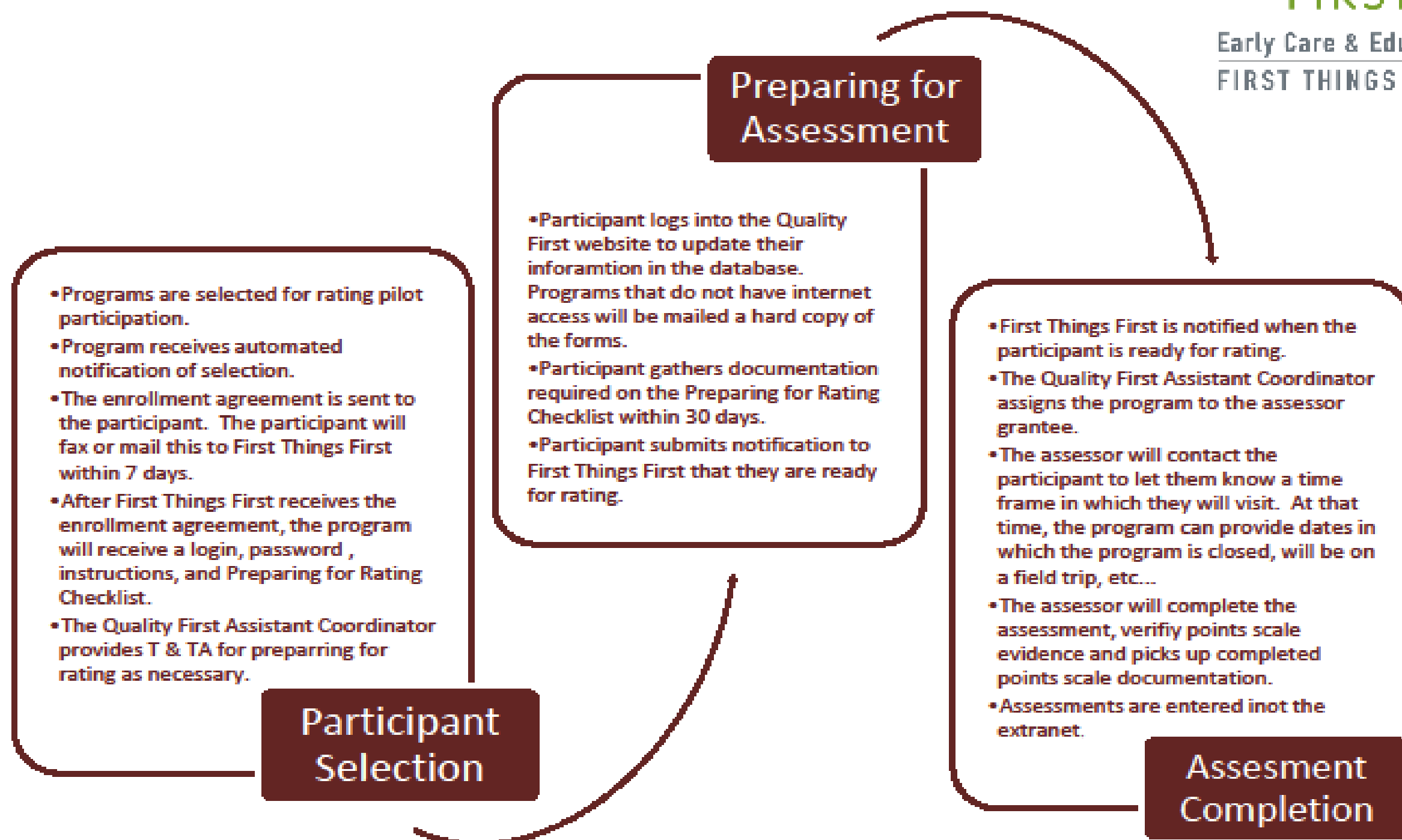
National Comparison: Finances

Arizona System	Information from Compendium
<p>Provide participants time to improve before being rated (Arizona participants in the full improvement and rating system receive 2 full years of planning and implementation prior to rating)</p>	<p>4 of 27 states wait a significant amount of time before rating</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> two states rate between 9-12 months two states allow more than 12 months to elapse <p>20 states rate within the first 3 -6 months from application to rating.</p>
<p>Financial Startup Support (\$7500-\$15,000 per year for 3 years + \$500 one-time, enrollment incentive)</p>	<p>Only 3 other states provide financing to programs prior to rating</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Florida (Palm Beach) Indiana Pennsylvania
<p>Quality Award Grant Funds Available (1,000 max per year for 3 years)</p>	<p>Only 11 other states reward programs financially for attaining a particular level of quality. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> one-time merit awards of 250.00-2500 (depending on center size) (Delaware) Merit awards depending on star level earned (1 star starting at \$315, 4 stars starting at \$788) (Pennsylvania)

First Things First Quality First Rating Pilot Flow Chart



Early Care & Education
FIRST THINGS FIRST



Next Steps for Arizona

- Continue improvements
- Test rating requirements and procedures
- Conduct progress assessments

Testing Rating

- Pilot study is underway
- 60 participants
- Compare pilot, baseline and progress data
- Finalize procedures and scoring system

When Rating Occurs

- Phase III: 2011
- Rating participant recognition
- Marketing campaign
- Website listing
- Parent awareness – look for a Quality First Participant

For Information or to Apply for the Pilot:

www.azftf.gov/qualityfirst

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